

# Petworth C of E Primary School

## Summer Newsletter No.3



12<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Once again it has been a busy week in school. This week the main focus was our Year Six children, who have been completing their Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs). This week the children have had to complete a timed reading, grammar and punctuation, spelling and three maths tests. Therefore the children are not just being tested on their reading and maths ability; they are also being tested on their ability to do this quickly. This does not always give an accurate assessment of the child's ability in these areas. As you would expect the children have accepted the challenges with smiles, laughter and have been determined to do their best. Huge credit goes to all of the children, but especially the children who have been a little unwell and shown great persistence and resilience in order to complete the tests. Mrs Sandon-Webb has organised a breakfast club for all of the children and it always surprises me how much they eat!

### **Fidget Spinner and Cubes**

Please can we refrain from allowing children to bring 'fidget spinners' to school. It is the latest craze and there have been many claims that in a minority of circumstances fidget spinners can relieve stress or keep a child focused, however I cannot find any scientific research that backs up this theory about fidget spinners. I do appreciate that children, and adults, do find comfort and in a 2015 study published in The Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology. That study's lead author, Mark Rapport, head of the Children's Learning Clinic at the University of Central Florida, found some evidence that adults should "avoid overcorrecting gross motor activity [of children with ADHD] during academic tasks." In other words, there is some evidence that fidgeting while performing a task may help some children learn e.g. foot tapping will help but using a fidget spinner is a secondary distraction.

I am all for finding ways for children to become more focused, I fidget constantly when I am learning and it is essential that we help children find ways that help them focus, but with fidget spinners the children are focusing more on the toy than they are on their work.

## Volunteer Opportunities

We are looking for someone to help us keep on top of our eco-garden. Do you know of anyone who would like to volunteer for an hour a week to manage the area and ensure it is useable for the children.

Would anyone like to assist with our Forest School on Wednesdays? We take a group of children to our Forest School every Wednesday and this is a great opportunity for the children to learn about the forest. We are willing to arrange training for anyone, who would be willing to volunteer, so you could achieve your Level 1 Forest School certificate.

Also, we are always willing to accept offers of help in the classroom, so if you have any spare time and you would like to see what we do in the school please come and talk to me.

All volunteer positions will have to go through our safeguarding procedures and every person will need to complete the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.

## Come and See the Children's Books

As part of our commitment to show you the children's progress throughout the year, on Tuesday 23rd May from 3:20 pm to 4:20 pm we would like to invite you in to see your children's work. No appointment is necessary, just pop in after school.

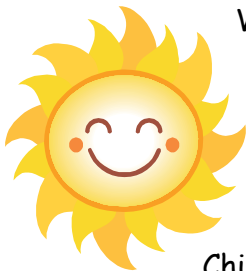
## Great Sporting Opportunity

Petworth Cricket Club offer sessions for children every Saturday morning. This is a great opportunity for children to learn more about cricket, develop their co-ordination skills and have fun. To find out more information please visit <http://www.petworthparkcricket.org>.

## Petworth Food Bank

Petworth Food Bank offers invaluable support to families who are having difficulty. Should you wish to obtain support from the Food Bank please visit me and all discussions will be strictly confidential.

## Sun Hats, Sun Cream & Water Bottles



With the warmer weather arriving please could we ask that if you would like your child to have sun cream applied, that you apply it in the morning before school and then your child can top this up for lunchtime play themselves. For younger children, adults will be on hand to assist with the application of sun cream. We also advise that children wear sun hats. Please could tubes/bottles of sun cream and sun hats be named.

Children must bring their **water bottles** to school **every day** as it is important they keep hydrated during the day. Bottles are on sale from the school office for £1.70 each or 60p for a new lid.

## Children's Work

### Rowan Investigators

Are currently learning about space and below are examples of their artwork.



By Cody



By Reuben

## Reminder - School Uniform and Equipment

Children wear school uniform.

**Our school colours are royal blue, sky blue and grey.** A selection of sweatshirts, cardigans and PE polo shirts are available at the school office. A price list is displayed in the school office.

### Girls:

Grey skirt, culottes, pinafore or smart grey trousers

White polo shirt or blouse    School sweatshirt/cardigan

White socks or grey tights

Sensible shoes **(NOT TRAINERS)**

**For summer**, girls can wear pale blue/white gingham dresses, grey trousers or culottes (not pedal pushers, shorts or track suit bottoms)

### Boys:

Grey trousers/shorts

White shirt or polo shirt    School sweatshirt

Grey socks

Sensible shoes **(NOT TRAINERS)**

**For summer** as above (not track suit bottoms)

**Please ensure coats and anoraks have loops for hanging on pegs.**

### PE and Games Clothes

Sky blue polo shirt (available from the school office with logo), black shorts, plimsolls (not trainers), shoe bag with drawstring (PE bags are available from school)

**For outdoors in Autumn and Spring:** Track suit bottoms (or similar) **NOT JEANS**, change of sweatshirt, trainers or plimsolls.

**PLEASE COULD YOU MAKE SURE THAT ALL ITEMS ARE NAMED, and encourage your children to look after their possessions.** If items are not claimed within a reasonable period the school will dispose of them.

### Jewellery

**We ask that pupils do not wear jewellery at school.** This includes (with the exception of small studs), ear rings, rings, neck chains, bangles etc. Small studs are permissible, providing your child is able to remove them independently for any physical education. This policy reflects national and County Council safety guidance. This is to avoid possible injuries caused by jewellery to pupils during games and PE lessons.

### Nail Varnish

**Nail varnish should not be worn in school, please can you ensure all nail varnish is removed.**

## **Midday Meals Supervisors Vacancy**

### **Part Time Term Time only**

Grade W02 £7.66 to £7.97 per hour.

### **Required to start as soon as possible**

We currently have two vacancies for Midday Meals Supervisors to start as soon as possible. The posts are for 7.5 hours a week, term time only. The hours will be 11.45am - 1.15pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. However we are happy to consider fewer days as a part of job share.

Your role will include setting up the hall and supervising lunchtime with the children, supporting play activities, providing pastoral support for the children and generally ensuring they are safe and happy.

This is an opportunity to join our friendly and supportive staff and make a real difference to the children in our school.

If you are interested in applying for one of these posts, please come and have a chat with me.

## Inset Days 2016/2017

26 May 2017

05 June 2017

## Dates for your Diary 2016/2017

Wed 26 Apr Beech Class (Group 2) Forest School Session weekly until 24<sup>th</sup> May

**Mon-Thurs 8-11 May KS2 SAT's**

Thurs 18 May Oak and Ash Class (Group 2) Forest School Session weekly until 8<sup>th</sup> June

Fri 19 May Year 3 and 4 Poetry Performance at 2.30pm

Fri 19 May Netball Tournament at MRC 1.30pm-4pm

Fri 19 May Kids Club Xtra 3.15pm-4.30pm Herbert Shiner Hall

Tues 23 May Year 1 and 2 Planetarium Trip

Tues 23 May Come Into See Your Child's Work from 3.20pm to 4.20pm

Thurs 25 May Christ Church CofE School Streatham visiting Year 5

**Fri 26 May INSET DAY**

**Mon 29-2 June HALF TERM**

**Mon 5 June INSET DAY**

Wed 7 June Rowan Investigators Forest School Session until 21<sup>st</sup> June

Tues 6 June Archery Years 3-6 with Premier Sports 7 weeks £27.95

Thurs 15 June Oak and Ash Class (Group 3) Forest School Session weekly until 29<sup>th</sup> June

Fri 16 June Cricket Year 5/6 at MRC 1.30pm-4pm (TBC)

Mon 19 June New Reception Children visit to school 1.15pm-3pm

Tues 20 June New Reception Parents Evening 6.30pm

Fri 23 June Year 6 Leavers Service Chichester Cathedral 10.15am

Sat 24 June PPSA Summer Fair

Wed 28 June MRC Transition Day

Wed 28 June Rowan Explorers Forest School Session until 12<sup>th</sup> July

**Thurs 29 June Sports Day time (TBA)**

Mon 10 Jul New Reception Children visit to school 1.15pm-3pm

Tues 11 Jul Elm & Willow Class performance of Shakespeare Rocks 1pm (details to follow)

Wed 12 Jul Elm & Willow Class performance of Shakespeare Rocks 6pm (details to follow)

Thurs 13 Jul Elm & Willow Class performance of Shakespeare Rocks 6pm (details to follow)

Thurs 13 Jul New Reception Children Home Visits

Fri 14 Jul New Reception Children Home Visits

**Tues 25 July END OF SUMMER TERM**

**Mon 4 Sept START OF AUTUMN TERM**

Mon 11-15 Sept Year 6 Bikeability

Fri 6-Mon 9 Oct Year 6 IOW PGL Residential

Yours sincerely



John Galvin  
Headteacher